Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05

OMB-01 /068 W

----- 094778

O 281125Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 7675

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, GK, TU, CY

SUBJECT: GREEK NEWSPAPER ALLEGES U.S. GAVE ACTIVE SUPPORT TO TURKS DURING AUGUST INVASION OF CYPRUS

1. GREEK AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER TA NEA FEBRUARY 27 ALLEGED IN FRONT PAGE STORY FILED BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT THAT US HAD ACTIVELY SUPPORTED TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS LAST AUGUST. STORY ASSERTED SOME SEVEN HUNDRED AMERICAN TOURISTS HAD ARRIVED IN CYPRUS DURING TWO MONTH PERIOD PRECEDING TURKISH INVASION (THE MAJORITY YOUNG MALES OF GREEK ORIGIN) CAUSING AT LEAST SOME SUSPICION ON PART OF GOC AS TO THEIR BONA FIDES AS TOURISTS. STORY STATED THAT SUBSEQUENTLY ARMED AMERICAN SPECIALISTS (AT LEAST TWO OF WHOM WERE WOUNDED) ASSISTED TURKISH HELICOPTERS TO LAND IN KYRENIA AREA THROUGH AID OF SPECIAL EQUIPMENT. STORY FURTHER ALLEGED THAT A U.S. SHIP HAS ALSO AFFORDED SUPPORT FROM SEA THROUGH ITS "RADIO NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT". STORY ASSERTED THAT AVAILABLE INFORMATION LED TO CONCLUSION THAT A JOINT US/UK/TURKISH PLAN HAD BEEN APPLIED DURING JULY AND AUGUST WHEREBY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRITISH WOULD SUPPORT TURKISH ACTIVITIES FROM A POSITION

EAST OF KYRENIA WHILE THE AMERICAN SPECIALISTS WOULD OFFER ASSISTANCE FROM AN AREA WEST OF KYRENIA.

2. PAO EMBASSY NICOSIA ADVISES THAT TA NEA STORY REPEATED WIDELY IN MORNING CYPRIOT PRESS AND THAT EMBASSY HAS ISSUED STATEMENT CATEGORIZING STORY AS "COMPLETELY FALACIOUS AND MALEVOLENT." WHILE WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY QUERIES TO DATE ON TA NEA STORY, EMBASSY INTENDS TO DENY STORY CATEGORICALLY AND REFER TO EMBASSY NICOSIA STATEMENT. SINCE STORY HAD ORIGIN IN WASHINGTON, WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN MIGHT WISH UTILIZE NOON BRIEFING TO KNOCK DOWN STORY COMPLETELY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ALLEGATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 FEB 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS01654

Document Number: 1975ATHENS01654
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750071-0065

From: ATHENS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975025/aaaaadlp.tel Line Count: 74

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: MorefiRH

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07 MAY 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: REEK NEWSPAPER ALLEGES U.S. GAVE ACTIVE SUPPORT TO TURKS DURING AUGUST INVASION OF CYPRUS

TAGS: PFOR, US, GR, TU, CY To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006